

Name: _____

ESL 220/221 Timed Writing Practice Prompts

You will have 45 minutes to write a well developed essay on ONE of the following topics. Please use the front of this page for any pre-writing notes you may want to make. Please, remember what you have learned about interpreting/understanding academic assignments. If you have questions about the prompt, make sure you ask. Give yourself exactly 45 minutes to brainstorm and write your essay. Choose a prompt that you have NOT yet written about in the diagnostic or practice timed writings.

1. What are the biggest adjustments that international students must make as they transition to an English-only university in the United States? Use general explanation and specific examples to support your opinion.
2. University courses are only part of the learning process; students also learn constantly from life's experiences outside classrooms. Discuss some of the significant learning experiences that students can have outside of the classroom. Be sure to support your ideas with specific explanations and relevant details.
3. Outside of taking ESL and other language-learning classes, what kinds of activities or practices can help an individual to improve his or her English? How and why do these improve one's language skills? Be sure to support your ideas with specific explanations and relevant details.
4. Most professors ask students to silence or turn off cell phones during class; however, many students do not follow this rule. In your view, how does cell phone use affect class atmosphere and why do many students resist following rules regarding cell phones? Be sure to support your ideas with specific explanations and relevant details.
5. Living in another country can be exciting. However, sometimes the differences between various cultures might make it hard for people to adjust. Discuss some problems that Americans might face if they spend an extended period of time in your country. Provide convincing examples and details. Be sure to support your ideas with specific explanations and relevant details.
6. In recent decades, the average age of marriage has been increasing. In a well-developed essay, illustrate the advantages and/or disadvantages of getting married at an older age (late twenties to early thirties) as opposed to a younger age (late teens or early twenties). Be sure to support your ideas with specific explanations and relevant details.